

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 088132
ORIGIN PM-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
INFO OASD/ISA/FMRA
438 MAW MCGUIRE AFB NJ
21AF MCGUIRE AFB NJ
SECAF
HQ MAC SCOTT AFB IL
USDAO OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 088132

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, CA

SUBJECT: CUSTOMS DOCUMENTATION AT GOOSE BAY

1. DET 1,438 MAW (MAC) GOOSE BAY HAS INFORMED AIR FORCE
BY MESSAGE 141233Z FEB 78 (USDAO OTTAWA HAS INFO COPY)
THAT CANADIAN CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OFFICE AT GOOSE BAY IS
SEEKING USAF COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF
CUSTOMS AND EXCISE MEMORANDUM D52-12, DATED 6 SEPT 1966,
TITLE: IMPORTATION UNDER TARIFF ITEM 70800-1, FOR
ENTRY OFSU ES/EQUIPMENT IMPORTED UNDER THE VISITING
FORCES ACT PROCEDURES AT GOOSE BAY. THESE PROCEDURES
WILL REQUIRE CUSTOMS ENTRY ON OFFICIAL FORM SUPPORTED
BY APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATE WITH SPECIFIC DETAILS.
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CUSTOMS INVOICE (INCLUDING CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN AND
UNIT DOLLAR VALUE) WILL BE REQUIRED, BUT IF NOT
AVAILABLE OTHER SHIPPING DOCUMENTS CONTAINING THE
REQUIRED INFORMATION WILL BE ACCEPTABLE IF ADEQUATELY
EXTENSIVE WITH SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR DESCRIPTIONS. STANDARD
CUSTOMS REGULATIONS WITH RESPECT TO MANIFESTING AND
EXAMINATION WILL APPLY TO ALL SHIPMENTS. STANDARD US

MILSTRIP COMMODITY DESCRIPTION CODES ARE NOT DEEMED ACCEPTABLE, NOR IS MILITARY NOMENCLATURE. APPARENTLY, THESE PROCEDURES WILL SOON REQUIRE STORAGE OF USG PROPERTY (AT USG EXPENSE) PENDING COMPLETION OF CUSTOMS

FORMALITIES. THESE PROCEDURES ARE ALSO BEING APPLIED TO USG PROPERTY TRANSITING GOOSE BAY, INCLUDING SHIPMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE DEWLINE.

2. WE DO NOT REGARD SUCH UNDULY BURDENSOME CUSTOMS PROCEDURES AS CONSISTENT WITH OBLIGATIONS OF GOC REGARDING FACILITATING ENTRY OF GOODS REQUIRED BY US FORCES UNDER BOTH NATO SOFA AND AGREEMENT OF NOVEMBER 24, 1976 REGARDING USE OF FACILITIES AT GOOSE BAY (TIAS 8454). UNDER BOTH AGREEMENTS GOC IS OBLIGED TO PROVIDE IN EFFECT DUTY-FREE ENTRY FOR GOODS WHICH ARE PROPERTY OF USG AND WHICH ARE TO BE USED IN ESTABLISHMENT, MAINTENANCE OR OPERATION OF FACILITIES AT GOOSE BAY. MOREOVER, THE SOFA INCLUDES SPECIFIC LIMITED CUSTOMS PROCEDURES FOR SUCH IMPORTS, AS FOLLOWS: "THIS DUTY-FREE IMPORTATION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE DEPOSIT, AT THE CUSTOMS OFFICE FOR THE PLACE OF ENTRY, TOGETHER WITH SUCH CUSTOMS DOCUMENTS AS SHALL BE AGREED, OF A CERTIFICATE IN A FORM AGREED BETWEEN THE RECEIVING STATE AND THE SENDING STATE SIGNED BY A PERSON AUTHORIZED BY THE SENDING STATE FOR THAT PURPOSE." THE USG HAS NOT AGREED TO THE COMPLICATED UNCLASSIFIED

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CUSTOMS FORMALITIES NOW BEING ENFORCED AT GOOSE BAY. THESE PROCEDURES ARE BURDENSOME AND EXCEED THE REQUIREMENTS CONTEMPLATED BY ARTICLE XI OF THE SOFA.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY RAISE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROBLEM WITH DEPT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. EMBASSY SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT THESE PROCEDURES WOULD CONSTITUTE A SUBSTANTIAL BURDEN ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF U.S. - CANADIAN COMMON DEFENSE COMMITMENTS, SUCH AS THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE DEWLINE AND OTHER MUTUAL DEFENSE FACILITIES IN CANADA AS WELL AS SEVERELY IMPEDING U.S. OPERATING RIGHTS AT GOOSE BAY. VANCE

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